

13th November 1922]

(h) the number of instances in which officials took part as bidders and the number and status of such officials;

(i) whether any lands were bought in by officials in such auctions, and, if so, their extent; and

(j) how many monigars and how many karnams were dealt with under the new Village Officers Hereditary Rights Act?

A.—(a), (b) & (f) to (j) The Government have no information.

(c) The percentage of arrears to the current demand in the two districts at the end of January, February and March 1922 was:—

District.	End of January.	End of February.	End of March.
Guntūr	80.1	46.2	0.1
Gōdāvari	26.2	11.1	4.5

(d) The kistbandi for the Guntūr district was revised and the entire demand made payable in two instalments one in January and the other in February.

(e) The current demand of fasli 1331 outstanding at the end of June 1922, which is the latest month for which figures are available, is as follows:—

Gōdāvari	Rs. 80,430 or 1.6 per cent of the total demand.
Guntūr	Rs. 2,008 or .03 of the total demand.

The Government have no information as to the causes to which these balances are due.

Passenger guides in the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway.

419 Q.—MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway has appointed passenger guides specially for the help of third-class passengers and if so, the names of such guides and the stations to which they are attached?

A.—The question was referred to the Agent, Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway, who reports that nine officials, designated "Passenger inspectors," have been appointed on the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway to attend to the wants and comforts of passengers and to give them information; one inspector is stationed at each of the more important junctions, viz., Guntakal, Bangalore, Arkonam and Bezvada, and the remaining five are employed to travel on the principal passenger trains.

MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"I want the names of the passenger guides appointed, so that we may know from what class they are recruited and whether they are likely to be useful to that class of passengers who ordinarily travel in the third class."

The hon. Mr. A. R. KNAPP:—"I am afraid, Sir, that I am not in a position to give the names of the passenger guides appointed."